



The Southwester

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Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities

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“It’s Good to be Home in Southwest, D.C.”



By the Southwester Staff

With these words, Arena Stage's artistic director Molly Smith set the tone for a new generation of American Theater in our neighborhood and a first step towards our revitalization as a community in their striking new structure.

The construction cranes are gone, and in their place we have a showcase for art, theater, architecture and city planning.

“Our center is a home for American Voices in the nation’s capital,” Smith said, “a showcase of the broad range of work from the country’s leading and emerging artists.”

“We are an education and development center in addition to a theater,” Smith continued. In other words, it’s also an art school. And, for the first time, every aspect of the theater’s production will take place in one Southwest campus.

The educational aspect of Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater demonstrates Arena’s commitment to developing

this artistic medium. This commitment is embodied in the Arlene and Robert Kogod Cradle, the new 200-seat theater space created at Arena designed to “cradle” innovation of first, second and third productions of new and developing plays.

Various media have hailed the new facility as an architectural and development challenge to Southwest and to the District. The \$125 million center, made possible by the generous naming gift of \$35 million by Gilbert and Jaylee Mead, set a 90 foot high standard of excellence for the future development of Southwest. It’s tapered, cantilevered roof and undulated glass walls break the clichéd rectangular harshness of neighboring architecture and mirror the riverfront as well as the underlying vitality of Southwest.

Bing Thom, lead architect for the project says, “We are convinced that the positive energy that will come from this building will send ripples – not just through Southwest Washington but throughout the region and

artistically even further.”

Among the amenities which have yet to be unveiled are the terrace under the tapered roof and the new Café. The Café will be operated by José Andrés Catering with Ridgewells. Andrés is well known for the creative cuisines of such D.C. institutions as Zaytinya, Oyamel, Café Atlantico, and Minibar. According to an Arena press release, the Café will be open all day.

Homecoming

All of the amenities of Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater will be on display during the Homecoming Grand Opening Celebration on Oct. 23, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The street festival will take place on Sixth Street and will include an outdoor stage, vendors and entertainment. The Homecoming Celebration will also be an opportunity to experience the Mead Center on the inside. Each stage will host per-

Continued on Page 6

Southwest Waterfront Public Presentation: Progress in Process

By Glenn Favreau

It is an exciting time for Southwesters. The brand new Waterfront plan is taking on an observable shape, even though groundbreaking and construction are still many months away – late 2012 at the earliest.

Hoffman Madison Marquette Waterfront presented the preliminary draft of the Master Development Plan (MDP) for the Southwest Waterfront along the Washington Channel as the initial step in the overall master planning, entitlement and public input process. The meeting took place at Arena Stage on Wednesday evening, Sept. 29, 2010, to a full house of over 500 residents.

After an avalanche of media coverage, especially in the Washington Post, it is easy to miss the correct context of the stage in the process represented in this preliminary draft.

The MDP will be submitted to and reviewed by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development. It includes the proposed design of the project and plans for developing the site. Master plans generally are at a district or neighborhood scale. They focus on amount, size and location of parks and other public spaces and public amenities throughout a project.

Stan Eckstut, the master planner with EEK Architects, presented the project overview, emphasizing water activity, public space and careful attention to view corridors, open

spaces between buildings which provide views straight down to the river. Many Southwesters are eager for a look at specific architectural and other pedestrian-level detail. They want to know about the design of each building, the paving of the sidewalks, the streetscape, lighting design, tree planting maps and other such details which will give character to the project. Residents want to see if their own issues have been addressed. The current planning document, however, will not address this level of specific planning and design at this time.

The Next Steps

Once the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development’s office reviews the present plan, Hoffman Madison Marquette Waterfront will then begin the formal planned unit development (PUD) process.

The PUD process is something that Southwesters are slowly becoming friendly with, given the recent influx of construction in the area. The PUD provides the developer with the opportunity to petition for zoning variances which are specific exceptions to the zoning on a particular building lot. In exchange for the variances, the public, through the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and the Zoning Commission, can encourage high-quality development and receive benefits. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to demand better development and to properly benefit from the presence of new construction in the



Participants at the Southwest Waterfront Public Presentation discuss the preliminary model of the MDP.

neighborhood.

According to Hoffman Madison Marquette, they are pursuing their PUD process in two stages. The Stage One PUD application will focus primarily on the “horizontal” development – elements on the ground plane including parks, public space, infrastructure, piers, and the bulkhead. It will also include

the project’s access and circulation, developable area, building massing with heights, and parking design.

Once the PUD Stage One application is reviewed by the Office of Zoning, it then is referred to the D.C. Office of Planning for additional review before it moves forward to

Continued on Page 4

ANC 6D Monthly Meeting: As Seen from the Pew

By The Southwester Staff

Within minutes of the call to order, audience members at last month's ANC 6D meeting were already twiddling their thumbs, texting on cell phones and nodding off. All of this occurred while residents braved yet another "constituent time".

Be that as it may, the commissioners soon got to the real business of the meeting, with a noticeable contingent of Capitol Riverfront residents on hand to follow the proceedings—a departure from those nights when only Southwesters are present. September's meeting was not a church-filler, but it took place before a sizable crowd, and the number of our neighbors from SMD 07 was remarkable.

Several agenda items related directly to Capitol Riverfront, which is a part of Ward 6 and ANC 6D along with all of Southwest (although, interestingly and to the consternation of many,

the section of Southwest just north of the freeway is actually Ward 2, yet continues to be a part of ANC 6D). One item was a request for an extension of the Planned Unit Development (PUD) for a proposed building at 250 M St., by Forest City. This proposal is the site of a much anticipated potential grocery store. The plan has been modified to include more residential space and more retail space in the structure. The developer requested and received a positive vote to extend their PUD for two more years—another casualty of financing scarcity.

Officials from the Capitol Riverfront Business Improvement District (BID) asked the ANC for support to change the name of the Navy Yard Metro to include "Capitol Riverfront." The Commission voted in favor of sending a letter to the Department of Transportation, but would not agree to put the BID's new name for the neighborhood in first order, citing the historic

importance of the Navy Yard and the recognition it enjoys. In a similar ANC supported request, Arena Stage also petitioned to add their name to the end of the Waterfront/SEU Metro Station name.

The Commission also approved a letter of support for a Capitol Riverfront BID request for a D.C. Public Arts matching grant to beautify the New Jersey Avenue underpass.

One of the ANCs' particular functions is to safeguard community interests when events make temporary use of public space. This includes partial street closings anywhere in the ANC for sponsored walks or marathons. Several presented requests, all but the most invasive receiving support without objection. Commissioners cited that when police declare an event a "special ops," as was the case with one of the events, there is little that the ANC can do by way of objection to any street closures.

Another important ANC function is to hear any community protests to liquor licensing in its area. The commissioners approved support requests to renew licensing for Arena Stage, the Bull Pen and Ziegfelds/Secrets. However, regarding the requested support to renew Zanzibar's license, the ANC protested due to past violations and what commissioners called the establishment's "uncertain future" (the venue is within the footprint of the first phase of the Waterfront redevelopment). All license renewals are subject to final approval by the District's Alcoholic Beverage Control Administration, giving great weight to the prior ANC vote.

The next ANC 6D meeting will take place on Monday, Oct. 18, 2010 at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St. SW, and will include a presentation by Hoffman Madison Marquette of the Waterfront project.

National Mall Levee Awarded to Affect SW Flood Plain

By Ron McBee, ANC6D Chair

The Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$4.6 million contract on September 17th to construct an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-funded levee to protect the downtown buildings as well as our community here in the near Southwest. The National Mall Levee will cross 17th Street, NW (perpendicular) just South of Constitution Avenue as shown in the diagram to the left with flood gates that can be raised when dictated by rising water.

While no specific start date is given in the press release, the Corps expects the start of construction on the levee to begin this October and have the project completed by the summer 2011.

This is great news and we will need to follow the project to assure the construction schedule is maintained. While some of our home owner associations and/or cooperatives already have flood insurance, others are in the process of obtaining the flood insurance before September 27th due to the increase in rates going into effect that day. This could mean an assessment or

cost to the homeowner of \$60 to \$75 a month or more depending on coverage details. Flood damage is usually severe and costly not only for the structure but the water damage done to contents as well.

After the construction, the levee will need to be certified, which is expected to take some months and the flood plain map for our District area re-issued showing the levee and re-defining the 100 year flood plain area in the near Southwest as well as Northwest areas of the city. At the recent July public meeting held with Eleanor Holmes

Norton and FEMA at Westminster Presbyterian Church, a FEMA official opined that this probably will be done, certification and new flood plain maps by FEMA, by the Spring of 2012. With the issue of the "new" 100 year flood plain maps by FEMA, at this point, mandated flood insurance by lenders will be alleviated by the satisfaction of the new map.

We have been assured by the Office Planning that vehicles using 17th Street will be open in the morning and evening to accommodate traffic flow during the construction.



Community Calendar

OCTOBER

WED. 6 7 p.m. Meeting, Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC Committee), ANC6D, King Greenleaf Rec. Center, 201 N Street, SW. Coralie Farlee, Chair, 554-4407, cfarlee@mindspring.com

7 P.M. ST. AUGUSTINE'S Art & Spirit Coffeehouse: "Spirituality for a Busy Life: the Pure Love of Madame Guyon." Rev. Dr. Nancy James. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW

FRI. 8 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. games. St. Augustine's Family Game Night. Bring a potluck dish to share. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street, SW

SAT. 9 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Riverfront Fest, The Yards Park, SE

FRI. 15 7 p.m. A Night at the Yards, The Yards Park, SE

SAT. 16 10 a.m. Neighbors of Town Center West Park Clean-up Day, corner of Sixth and I streets, SW

9 A.M.-1P.M., FALL Open House and Yard Sale, breakfast (\$5), church tours, live music and entertainment, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St., SW

MON. 18 7 p.m. ANC6D Monthly Meeting, Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW

6:00 P.M. SW Library Evening Movie Series, *Auntie Mame*, 900 Wesley Pl., SW

WED. 20 NOON. AARP, Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751. Michael Mack, a Southwest resident will discuss his experiences and behind-the-scenes thinking and innovation that created the "Star Trek" series. River Park Mutual Homes, Inc., Community room, 1311 Delaware Ave., SW

SAT. 23 11:30 a.m. -6 p.m. Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater Southwest Homecoming, Sixth Street between M and I streets, SW

SUN. 24 7 p.m. St Augustine's Grounds for Discussion. "JumpStart Media Project, Year One." St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW

MON. 25 7 p.m. SWNA Monthly Meeting, Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW

6:30 P.M. SW Library Evening Movie Series, *You Can't Take it With You*, 900 Wesley Pl., SW

THUR. 28 12:30 p.m., National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) meeting, Southwest Library, 900 Wesley Pl., SW

SAT. 30 1:00 p.m. Kitchen Table Book Group, *The Confessions of Nat Turner* by William Styron, SW Public Library, 900 Wesley Pl., SW

WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

THE KIWANIS CLUB of Southwest Waterfront, Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth St. SW, every first and third Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

SOUTHWEST SEWING GROUP, Mondays, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW, contact Willie Mae Stukes, Sewing teacher, 301-445-1792. Open to all interested in working on their own sewing projects and updating hand and/or machine sewing skills. Mondays, except for July and August.

SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) group, Mondays, 8:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW, 202-554-3222.

SW FREEWAY NA (Narcotics Anonymous) group, Wednesdays, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St., SW, 202-484-7700.

AARP-SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, CHAPTER 4751, the third Wednesday of each month, except for June, July and August. River Park Mutual Homes Inc., Community room, 1311 Delaware Ave., SW. Contact Chapter President Elger Offutt, ee.offutt@comcast.net or 202-285-4677.

HAND DANCING CLASSES, (jitter bug, lindy hop). Saturdays, 12 noon-1 p.m. Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children ages 8-17. Christ United Methodist Community room off Wesley Place, SW.

CHESS CLUB, SW Library, 900 Wesley Place, every Weds 7-9 p.m., for all levels, even beginners

BLUES MONDAYS, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5, food for sale.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS, 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine); 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi), and 7 p.m., Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). Free, donations welcome.

FRIDAYS, JAZZ NIGHT in SW, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Various jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5, food for sale.

FARMERS MARKETS are open for business at three locations in the Southwest/Capitol Riverfront area. FRESHFARM Market, Health & Human Services headquarters at 200 Independence Ave. SW, Wednesdays through the end of October from 2:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Capitol Riverfront Farmers Market, Thursdays through the end of October at New Jersey Avenue, SE and M Street, SE, from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. USDA Farmers Market, 12th Street SW and Independence Ave. SW, Fridays through the end of October from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

THE SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD Assembly holds its monthly public meeting every fourth Monday at 7 p.m. at Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St., SW

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS Club, First and Third Wednesday each month, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Buy, sell, trade, sell stamps, refreshments, auctions, and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block I St., SW, 202-291-6229.

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Please submit calendar items for November events by e-mail to thesouthwester@yahoo.com by October 17, 2010.

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Youth Activities Task Force made world history on August 4, when a group of its members became the youngest people ever to visit the Archives of the World Bank.

Ranging in age from 10-14, the YATF students spent a full day at the World Bank and, by all accounts, left an impressive legacy. They sparked the interest of many World Bank staff members, receiving an overwhelming number of comments and prompting a World Bank article on their visit to become the "Staff Pick" of the week, getting 1,450 views the week it was published.

Impressed by and curious about the level of interest of her former colleagues, World Bank retiree and SWNA YATF program coordinator Thelma Jones sought an official view of the accomplishment from Dani Clark, World Bank external affairs editor of internal communications:

"The story on Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's Youth Activities Task Force's visit generated many positive comments from staff about opening up the Bank to young people. The staff consensus seems to be that we need to do this more often because not many youth actually know what we do – when in fact our mission and work to alleviate poverty in developing countries is exciting and inspiring to young people seeking to make a difference."

Not only did SWNA YATF youth make history but they also helped, in some ways, to influence the focus of the Bank's work in a different and more positive direction, especially as it relates to welcoming youth. The outcome of the article has inspired some possibilities for involving the Southwest youth in other World Bank initiatives, including taking advantage of the World Bank's recently renovated Youthink website (<http://youthink.worldbank.org/>).

"The website would help to inform the Southwest youth more about development challenges and the Bank's work to tackle them," noted Clark.

Never shying away from an opportunity, Jones has now consulted with Gerald Brown, a veteran World Bank staff member who is also the lead volunteer instructor for YATF's Computer-for-Kids Program, about the possibility of incorporating the Youthink website into the fall computer class which begins in October.

"We were pleased that each tour site we visited warmly wel-

Students Make History at the World Bank



World Bank Managing Director Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala poses with YATF kids. Photo—Jim Johnson.

comed us back next year," said Jones. "By the time we return next summer, the students will be even better prepared and possibly make history in an even new and different way."

The following is the continuation of the article published last month "YATF Visits the World Bank".

As the tour was winding down, the students visited Managing Director Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the World Bank's number two person out of over 10,000 employees. While waiting for Okonjo-Iweala to greet the students, Staff Assistant Estella Malayika, a Burundian national, entertained the students with highlights of her culture and speaking to them in her native French language, including responding to the students' request to say the equivalent of their names in French.

In a surprise move, Okonjo-Iweala invited the students to participate in a conference call so that they could not only witness the Bank in action but also see how effective technology was being

used to facilitate the Bank's work. Fascinated by the experience, the students asked all kinds of impressive questions, provided correct answers to Okonjo-Iweala's questions and reacted openly to many of the statements made, so much so that Okonjo-Iweala remarked, "These kids are really on the ball! We should do this again next year so let's work on making it happen."

If the conference call was one of the tour's highlights, the passing of the vuvuzela, the South African horn, really got them roused up as each student took turn in either blowing it, or at least trying. The day ended with the goal achieved of helping to provide new and positive summer opportunities and experiences for the kids while increasing their knowledge about the World Bank, development in general and how their lives are interrelated. The day-long experience left an indelible impression on the kids as well as the Bank staff members and captured by Southwest's own renowned Photographer Jim Johnson.

Special thanks to Malayika in the Managing Director's Office and the World Bank Group-IMF African American Association Members Marline Alexis, Gerald Brown, LaTonya Sellers, and Bertha F. Wilson for their efforts in helping to organize the tour and their generous contributions in helping to underwrite the students' lunches. Also, thanks to both Ian Solomon and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, members of the Association. Okonjo-Iweala is a founding member of the Association Created in May 1999 on the 45th Anniversary of *Brown vs. Board of Education* under the leadership of Southwest Civic leader Thelma Jones, the Association addresses the issues and concerns of African Americans at the twin institutions.

YATF continues to be grateful for the tour and the continued long-time involvement of both the World Bank and the World Bank Group-IMF African American Association.

Founded in 1985, the YATF is an all-volunteer group which is dedicated to the welfare and personal development of Southwest and Southeast youth (zip codes 20024 and 20003). YATF is committed to advocacy and the bringing together of people with similar interests and concerns so that we can speak as one community on the needs of youth and the services required to fulfill those needs.

Thelma Jones, who retired from the World Bank after 33 years, coordinated the trip and contributed to this article.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Are you looking for a fun and easy way to help raise money and spread the word about fighting breast cancer? If so, Breast Cancer Survivor Thelma Jones invites you to join her for the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk on Oct. 30 at the Sylvan Theatre, National Mall.

Registration starts at 9 a.m. and the event kicks off at 10 a.m. Jones is leading her team the "Faith Striders" and would like to have a minimum of 58 walkers.

"I just turned 58 years young on Sept. 5, even though I don't look it at all, and would like to have a team member to represent each year of my age," said Jones.

As a 2009 Pacesetter raising \$2,000, Jones

has doubled her goal of \$4,000 and needs your support again to help achieve this ambitious Pacesetter goal for 2010.

Let's walk with Jones and help her and thousands of others enjoy many happy birthdays in the future. Remember, when your foot hits the pavement, you'll be making strides with the "Faith Striders" and others toward a world with more birthdays – a world where breast cancer never steals another year of anyone's life.

To learn more about how you can help Thelma Jones and the Faith Striders achieve her Pacesetter's goal, please visit www.stridesdc.org, call (202) 488-3746 or email her at tjones15@verizon.net.

Blotter

By John McGrath

PSA 104 Monthly Meeting, Thursday, September 16, 2010.

Lt. Gallucci reviewed the crime statistics for January-August 2010, which are mostly lower than last year. However, there was an upsurge in violent robberies this past summer.

One of two such robberies in August resulted in a prompt arrest when the victim was able to identify the assailants. Three arrests for recent burglaries in PSA 104 were also cited. Focused police patrols in the areas of the 1400 block of Fourth St., SW and the Titanic Memorial as well as the Safeway and Waterfront Metro Station have been initiated as a result of citizen complaints. Recent bike

thefts at Harbour Square (500 N St., SW) and in the area of 1300 block of Half St., SW were discussed, but there are no suspects to date.

Crime information at specific street locations is available by subscribing by E-Mail to MPD-1D-subscribe@yahoo-groups.com to receive PSA 104 crime reports.

Lt. Gallucci noted the reopening of Arena Stage on October 23, 2010. Police coverage will be provided before curtain time and at closing as was the case in prior years.

Police were asked for the status of a traffic accident victim (a Harbour Square resident was struck by a garbage truck while crossing Fourth and M streets, SW about two weeks ago). A neighbor indicated that the victim is in serious condition in the hospital.

Next Meeting: October 21, 2010 (7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) Potomac Place Condo, 800 Fourth St., SW.



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Progress

From p. 1

the Zoning Commission for scheduling of a Set Down Hearing.

During this time, the developers will continue to meet with various D.C. agencies, including the Office of Planning, the Office of the Environment, and the Department of Transportation, as well as City Council members, area stakeholders, and federal agencies on this design phase.

The package is then reviewed by the Zoning Commission at a Set Down Hearing and refinements to the plan will be proposed and made in preparation for a pre-hearing package. Once a public hearing is scheduled, developers will prepare the pre-hearing package and continue meeting with community members, stakeholders and ANC members. The Zoning Commission's public hearing is open to the public who will have the chance to review the plan.

It is only after this process that the developers will then prepare a PUD Stage Two application, which will include "schematic-level architectural drawings" for all buildings within the phase and material selections for building exteriors, as well as schematic design and material selections for public space, parks, infrastructure, roadways, promenades, piers, and other details.

The Plan so Far

The Stage One plan, presented on Wednesday evening, outlines what is planned to be a real urban destination on the Waterfront with a vibrant neighborhood of housing, commerce and maritime activity.

The actual construction of the project will proceed in phases: Phase One stretches from the existing Seventh Street Park to the Ninth Street Park, Phase Two is the balance of the site from



Above, a view of the Ninth Street Park as it is today. The area is slated to become City Pier. Below, an artist's conception of what City Pier may look like after development. Photo courtesy of Hoffman Madison Marquette Waterfront.



Ninth Street northwest to the Fish Market, and Phase Three is the balance of the site from Seventh Street southeast towards the Men's Titanic Memorial.

It is still difficult to capture the overall character and personality of the project since the plan is simply not that advanced as yet, but some overall features are becoming visible now that the public has seen a glimpse of the MDP.

The MDP contemplates adding several lines of the District's new street car system which will link the project to points throughout the city. Of course, any future street car routing will be decided by the city and will not be built by the developer. However, having the street cars is a critical element to connect the development and to minimize vehicular traffic.

The plan contemplates the creation of public spaces – a growing concept in this country. These spaces include much more amplified parks than those which currently exist.

Market Square – includes saving the current Fish Market and will serve as the anchor to a new larger constantly-changing public market that will augment the offerings with fruits, vegetables and other fresh food.

City Pier – located on what is now the Ninth Street Park will be the "Front Porch" of the project – an active social place with restaurants, retail and a destination of civic and cultural attractions.

Seventh Street Park, and the Grove – same location as the current pocket park and will be reconceived as a more formal park setting but

with an approachable and comfortable feel.

M Street Landing – located at the intersection of M Street and Maine Avenue, will be an informal gathering space that will be used for activities throughout the year and is designed to allow the neighborhood to interact and connect to the water. The highlight will be the new Arena Stage signature structures by Bing Thom.

The Wharf – the most important public element is the water's edge, known as The Wharf. The Wharf is envisioned to be the center of the District's maritime activity – strolling, outdoor dining, events, tall ship festivals, interesting and unique retail. It is the grand promenade that ties the project together into a truly unique offering in the District. The name brings back the historic nomenclature of the feature, according to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, and looks to return to the hustle and bustle of its past waterfront life.

What We Should Expect

There is much yet to be seen of how this all articulates into a Waterfront which embodies a particular and unique character. No one in Southwest wants what could be on any river in the country or the world. Monty Hoffman, leader of the development team, pledged to create "Washington, D.C.'s own version of a Waterfront." Southwesters want to feel that the Waterfront is still theirs, and is a feature of the nation's capital. This is the great challenge for our community and for the developers: dig deeply into Southwest's past and analyze its present to uncover the fabric and ideas which make it unique and special to the District.

There is no doubt that there is an opportunity for the public to help make the project better during the PUD process and to create a series of benefits which will aim to improve the overall Southwest community, its quality of life, and improve the actual Waterfront plan.

While Wednesday's presentation was the first of the previously promised open public meetings, Southwesters hope it will not be the last. The Waterfront will be a driving force for our entire neighborhood for generations to come. Every resident of the quadrant is a true stakeholder in the future success of this mammoth project, and in the effort to avoid mistakes of past development.

As Councilmember Tommy Wells commented on Wednesday night, "We only get one shot at this."

The Southwester will begin a series of articles starting in November to bring more information about the Waterfront Master Development Plan as it comes up for public comment.



Photo by Robert E. Hyman

Melissa
ROHAN

DC State Board of Education Ward 6

Melissa Rohan has lived in Ward 6 for nearly 10 years, and her family currently resides in Southwest Waterfront. You can learn more about Melissa at www.melissarohan.com or email her at info@melissarohan.com.

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CHANCE TO SUCCEED IN LIFE.

Paid for by Friends of Melissa Rohan PO Box 70072, Washington, DC 20024
Matt Rohan, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Office of Campaign Finance.

Reality Check: Man v. Machine

By Essita Duncan

In the ongoing fight of man versus machine, the former doesn't stand a chance against the infamous speed camera. Whether mobile or propped up on a pole, the speed camera shows no mercy. It doesn't discriminate based on race, gender, sexuality or religion. Sorry, no DWB claims here. With the number of speed cameras popping up all over the country in the name of safety, we all stand a fair chance of having our pictures snapped sooner or later.

If calibrated correctly, and suffering from no interferences like wind or another vehicle, the amount of speed at which the unit clocked your vehicle traveling is presumed correct, case closed. But what if you swear on your grandmother's grave that you know you weren't going too fast, and you want to fight the ticket?

Then fight it – it's your right.

But wait a second. Your hearing will be con-

ducted by an independent employee of your local DMV. There will be no police, prosecutor or even your accuser, the speed camera, present. The employee will act as the prosecutor, judge and jury. He or she will present the evidence against you during the hearing, listen to any evidence you present, and eventually make a decision.

Certainly, if motorists provided the additional evidence indicating that they have a lead foot prior to the hearing, most would pony up and pay the ticket. There is not much wiggle room for the average driver in fighting the presumption that the machine was calibrated correctly and working properly.

So in most recent episode of man versus machine, the speed camera wins again.

This does not constitute legal advice and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. Essita Duncan is an attorney in private practice who can be contacted at eduncan@duncandefense.com.

■ The D.C. Council approved the sale of the **Randall School** from the Corcoran Museum to Telesis/CACB Holdings for development of a museum and hotel. The Corcoran had purchased the building and land from the city to expand its own museum and art school, but failed to find a suitable development partner. The Sept. 21 action by the Council implies that the pre-existing covenant for educational use is no longer attached to the property. Bing Thom, the architect best known in our neighborhood for the design of the new Arena Stage, has been chosen to give his signature look to the new construction which will take place at Randall, together with historical preservation of the street facing structures.



Construction progresses on the Consolidated Forensic Lab on Fourth Street.

■ Construction on the new **Consolidated Forensic Laboratory** on Fourth and School streets, SW is progressing rapidly. The first above-ground floor structures are now in place for the 351,000 square-foot building which will consolidate the Metropolitan Police Department forensic lab, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Department of Health public health lab. Relocation of these offices is still on track for 2012. Donald L. Bert of Capitol City Associates, which is coordinating hiring for the construction phase, reports that about one half of the 66 construction jobs went to D.C. residents, but only three of them reside in Ward 6. The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company holds quarterly public Town Hall Meetings at their Company Construction Trailer, 490 Second St., SW, for all residents who are interested in discussing the project. The last meeting was on Sept. 28, 2010. Contact Donald Bert at 202-678-6600 for information on the next meeting.

■ The construction lot at **1401 South Capitol St.** in Southwest is now up for sale. A handwritten sign has appeared on the property fencing with a phone number to call for information. The lot had been held for the future



Bikes await users at the new Capital Bike Share station across from the Metro.

Real Estate and Development

Daily Developments

By Glenn Favreau

construction of luxury condos by Donohoe Companies who also is in an agreement with the city to purchase the land around the Navy Yard Metro and build up 1111 New Jersey Ave. SE.

■ **Capital Bikeshare** has set up new bike rental stations at Fourth and M streets, SW, M Street and New Jersey Avenue, SE, and First and N streets, SE. The District Department of Transportation has teamed up with Arlington County, Virginia and Alta Bicycle Share. Alta was formed as a sister company to Alta Planning and Design, the bicycle and pedestrian consulting firm, solely

to undertake bicycle share projects. Rental is simple, and bikes may be returned to any of the many stations in D.C. and Arlington.

■ **PN Hoffman and Madison Marquette** have set up offices in trailers on the Waterfront just south of the Zanzibar building. The move from their downtown center, according to Monty Hoffman, was prompted by the need to be on site and more present in the community. Although the planning and design stage for the \$1 billion plus project is now underway, developers are still months away from breaking

ground.

■ Forest City's request for an extension of the Planned Unit Development for "**Parcel D**", which fronts on Fourth Street near Canal Street in Southeast, revealed some changes to the original plan for the building. The current plan calls for less office space and more retail and residential square footage. The site is well known to local residents as a possible location for a grocery store in the future such as Harris Teeter. The plan now includes up to 225 residential units and 110,000 total square feet of retail space. The best case estimate for the start of construction is 2012, with delivery in late 2013. The Zoning Commission must still approve a variance to the 90-foot maximum height requirement for a total of 110 feet.

JIM DEMARTINO

DC COUNCIL WARD 6

Jim DeMartino isn't a career politician - he's a political outsider. And just like many of you, he's looking for something different from his leaders too.

Our city needs leaders who are in touch with people's everyday problems and dedicated to making their lives better. It's time elected leaders started earning votes instead of taking them for granted. Jim DeMartino recognizes that people need a better choice for real opportunity and that's why he is running for the city council.



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John Haynes, Treasurer

High-Tech Southwest

By Raymond Schillinger

"Finding the Perfect PC"

If you've been in the market for a new computer recently, you're probably aware that purchasing a PC can be a rather daunting experience.

With dozens of brands and hundreds of models to choose from, each with slightly different specifications, how can you be sure that you are paying a fair price for a reliable machine that will meet your computing needs?

Those technical specifications on the box just don't help — what does having that extra gigabyte of RAM really mean? Worse yet, most big-box retailers are focused on upselling their products, meaning that you are likely to end up paying too much for something you didn't even need in the first place.

Here are a few quick guidelines, however, that can give you a sense of confidence when buying your next computer.

1. Prepare a list of what you expect to do with your computer before beginning your shopping.

If you are planning to take your computer to school, to work, on an upcoming trip, or even to the new Fourth Street Safeway café, you'll definitely need a laptop. Otherwise, a desktop computer might be a way to save a few dollars and get more bang for your buck — desktops are often, but not always, more powerful and more reliable than laptops in the long run.

2. Avoid overspending on features you really don't need.

While it might be tempting to spend an extra \$200 on a faster processor, you simply will not notice any difference in day-to-day tasks. Remember: higher-end computers are designed for people who have higher-end demands, such as playing the latest games, professionally editing multimedia, or running a server. Even an entry-level PC today is capable of performing nearly any basic task, from document processing to video-chatting with your relatives over Skype.

3. Consider an extended warranty.

Computer repair is expensive. If you purchase a PC or a Mac and expect to keep it for more than two years, look into extending the warranty from the outset, as most standard manufacturer warranties last only for one year or less. With the unpredictable and costly nature of computer hardware, you'll likely recoup the extra initial expense before the end of the extended warranty.

While there is no easy formula for figuring out exactly which PC will be perfect for your needs, these reminders will ensure that you both meet your expectations and stay within your budget.

Raymond Schillinger is a technology consultant and the author of a tech-themed blog at www.technosophe.com. He can be reached directly at techcorner@technosophe.com.

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Arena Stage

From p. 1

formances, and other halls and lobbies will provide space for children's activities. Tickets for the indoor events are free and can be reserved in advance on www.arenastage.org.

This is an event for all of Southwest to experience Arena and for the entire nation to experience Arena in Southwest.

Arena and Us

Arena Stage and Southwest are a family. The pride and joy of many a family are its children. Southwest is particularly proud of what Arena Stage has engendered in our community. Voices of Now is an after-school drama program in which students gain the skills to grow into well-rounded artists. Moving Stories is an interactive experience that brings stories to life for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students in the District. Taught by highly-trained Arena Stage teaching artists it uses song, movement, sign language and storytelling to promote. Arena is an official partner with Jefferson Middle School and actively assists Amidon-Bowen Elementary School with many events.

A Message from Southwest

Our joy at the Homecoming informs our



hope for the future: the future of American Theater, the future of art and education in the nation's capital, and the future of our own Southwest community.

Our hope informs our dream: the dream of a better Southwest.

Our dream informs our commitment to each other and to our city, a commitment to do things better and grander.

To Arena, a heartfelt "Welcome Home."

Allen A. Flood, M.D.

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Homecoming Grand Opening Celebration

Oct. 23, 2010 • 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Schedule of Events:

Outdoor Stage

The outdoor stage will feature various performances from local artists, including tap dancers, choir singers and jazz musicians.
 11:30 AM Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 12:30 PM The Universes, spoken word/slam poetry ensemble
 1:30 PM "Glee" Battle of the Show Choirs
 2:30 PM The Manzari Brothers, introduced by Charles Randolph-Wright
 3:30 PM Yankton Sioux Drummers
 4:30 PM Schlosberg Jazz Band
 5:30 PM Grand Finale featuring the cast of *Oklahoma!*, Brad Oscar, Kate Baldwin, Matt Bogart and Alice Ripley



confess discuss the new play
 4:30 PM Resident Playwright and *Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies* director Charles Randolph-Wright reads from his new work

Rehearsal Hall B

This room will feature performances from Arena Stage's Community Engagement programs and prominent local performance companies.

12:15 PM Washington Improv Theater
 1:15 PM Arena Stage's Voices of Now
 2:15 PM Synetic Theater
 3:15 PM Liz Lehrman Dance Exchange
 4:15 PM Arena Stage's Student Playwrights Project

The Study

The Study, nestled between the glass curtain and Fichandler exterior wall, provides a clear view of the corner of Sixth and Maine streets, and will feature singing performances from past Arena Stage artists.

12:45 PM Nina Negri (*3 Mo' Divas*)
 1:45 PM Bayla Whitten (*Christmas Carol 1941*)
 2:45 PM Diego Prieto (*Cabaret*)
 3:45 PM Nina Negri
 4:45 PM Bayla Whitten

Classroom

The classroom, where community engagement programs meet throughout the year, will provide a space geared to entertain children and for families to create memorable souvenirs to commemorate Arena Stage's homecoming and the day's festivities.

12:15–5:15 PM Children's Crafts and Activities

* General admission tickets are free, but are required to enter events in theater spaces. Tickets will be available exclusively online beginning October 8, 2010 at www.arenastage.org. Limited tickets will be available for day-of release outside the Mead Center at the Arena Stage visitor's center beginning at 10:00 AM.

Homecoming Celebration schedule and performers are subject to change.

Southwest Performances 2010-2011 Season

every tongue confess
 Friday, November 26, 2010 at noon

Oklahoma
 Friday, December 24, 2010 at noon

Let Me Down Easy
 Saturday, January 1, 2011 at 8 p.m.

The Arabian Nights
 Sunday, February 13, 2011 at 1 p.m.

Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*
 Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 1 p.m.

Edward Albee's *At Home at the Zoo*
 Sunday, April 24, 2011 at 2 p.m.

Ruined
 Sunday, May 29, 2011 at 1 p.m.

A Time to Kill
 Friday, June 10, 2011 at 8 p.m.

Limit four per household
 Proof of SW residence/employment must be presented for EACH ticket purchased

PLAYS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The cost for SW residents on these dates and times is \$25 per ticket plus a small service fee.

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Appreciation for Police and Firefighters

By The Southwester Staff

The Capital Yacht Club hosted the 26th annual Phyllis Golembé Memorial Picnic on Sept. 25, honoring the men and women who step up and protect D.C. residents and their city.

Despite the heat, grills were smoking from 11 a.m. until the last meal was served at 6 p.m. Many "thank you's" were heard from the volunteers serving food to the local service members and their families, and there were a lot of smiles in return.

At the end of the day 850 members of the police and fire departments and their families feasted on 500 pieces of chicken from Phillip's Restaurant, 50 pounds of fresh steamed shrimp from Captain White and Jessie Taylor at the Fish Market, 600 servings of fried rice from Jenny's Asian Fusion restaurant, 400 brownies from Entertainment Cruises, 150 pounds of ice and 400 bottles of water from Gangplank Marina were consumed. Not to mention the 100 pounds



Waterfront volunteers help to serve some on the nation's finest police officers and firefighters.

of potatoes for potato salad, 400 black Angus half pound steak burgers, 350 hot dogs, 450 ice cream bars and unlimited Asian slaw prepared by the Capital Yacht Club members to make this a special family picnic.

Families were had a variety of entertainment options including a magician, jazz duo, and fishing. Magician George Bradley amazed the children with his magic tricks. The Scott Rammerger and Dave Chappell jazz duo had some up dancing and many tapping their toes. And although the fish weren't biting, one young man did catch a good-sized catfish.

The event was formerly hosted for police and fire departments in the local area but was expanded eight years ago to become a city-wide event. This year's event was sponsored by the Capital Yacht Club, Gangplank Marina, Jenny's Asian Fusion, Phillip's Flagship, Washington Waterfront Association, Entertainment Cruises, Jessie Taylor and Captain White Seafood.

Fall Walking Tour of Southwest



Participants in the Southwest Walking Tour

By Erin Fitzgerald

The weekend of Sept. 25 marked Cultural Tourism the District's second yearly WalkingTown D.C., a weekend full of free walking tours across the city. This year the itinerary included a 9 a.m. stroll through the history and future of Southwest. About 25 people attended the Saturday morning tour, titled "Surprising Southwest", which was led by a licensed D.C. tour guide, Russ Norfleet.

It began at Benjamin Banneker Circle at the far end of the L'Enfant Promenade, where residents and tourists alike got a look at what is, what could have been, and what might be at the Southwest Waterfront.

The tour wended its way past the old and the new. Highlights included the HUD building, St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Arena Stage, the new Fourth Street development, Wheat Row, the

Titanic Memorial and the Southwest Waterfront.

The tour took advantage of the already existing "River Farms to Urban Tours: Southwest Heritage Trail" informational signs to give an idea of the neighborhoods history.

Attendees included tourists, Southwesters and residents from other D.C. neighborhoods looking to learn a little more about their city. Although many had seen the areas of Southwest near the L'Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metro stations, interest was piqued as the tour crossed M Street to explore the Wheat Row townhomes, Fort McNair and the Titanic Memorial.

Cultural Tourism D.C. offers the WalkingTown D.C. program twice a year. Tours during these weekends are always free and open to all, although reservations for many are required. The next set of these free tours will be held Spring 2011.



SW Girl Scout Troop 4298 from King Greenleaf Recreation Center posing on their trip to Girl Scout Camp Winona in Maryland.

Girl Scout Troop 4298 at King Greenleaf Recreation Center

By Troop 4298

This September, Girl Scout Troop 4298 is starting its fourth year in existence and that is something to celebrate. Heather Foley, Alexis Echoles and Monica Evans first started the Girl Scout troop at Greenleaf Gardens in Southwest near the National's baseball stadium. Since it first convened, the troop has grown from three troop leaders and seven girls to seven troop leaders and thirty girls last year. All of our scouts reside in Southwest and many attend Amidon-Bowen Elementary School. They are all between the ages of five and twelve.

Each year we increase the activity list for the scouts. Last year we graduated from a hike and camp fire to a full on camping trip to Girl Scout Camp Winona in Southern Maryland where the girls learned to make a camp fire and cook on it, make ice cream in a ziplock bag, wash dishes the girl scout

way, mark trails, follow evacuation routes, make tie-dye t-shirts, sit-upons, do yoga and much more. None of the girls had ever been camping and they were able to learn life skills on this weekend adventure. We were also thrilled that one of our parents joined us.

Troop 4298 loves volunteers, preferably from Southwest and Ward 6 who can teach their talents and crafts to our girls. Last year we had Southwest native and neighbor Mary Early, artist and troop leader Elizabeth, Mary's sister, teach the girls about different types of art. This year Brenda, another Southwester will come to teach the girls how to start and maintain a community garden as well as make beautiful handbags.

If you are interested in volunteering, sharing your talent or just meeting the girl scouts please feel free to contact us 202.570.4475 or GirlScoutsSWDC@gmail.com.

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Centuries-Old Spirituality Applies to Today's Busy and Stressful Lives

by Elaine Graves

The Rev. Dr. Nancy James, an expert on the life and writings of 17th century mystic Madame Jeanne Guyon, will discuss her relevance to the 21st century's stressful times at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse, 600 M St. SW, on Wednesday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. The free evening includes coffee and desserts, followed by a Q&A with the audience.

James, an Episcopal priest, author, English language and writing instructor, D.C. Criminal justice advocate, professional musician (piano, organ and flute) is also proficient in classical Greek, Latin, French and German. She initially wrote her dissertation about Guyon and Quietism, and has authored several books and papers on this little known mother of five, who in her time led the Quietist movement in France.

"Madame Guyon wrote her theology of pure love that asserts that God wants to enjoy with the divine in this life," James explained. "She wrote about spiritual development of those busy working in Louis XIV's court at Versailles. Her ideas have helped those in active lives learn to be spiritually aware in the midst of life's demands."

Titling her talk "Spirituality for a Busy Life: the Pure Love of Madame Guyon," James explains that while Guyon was a favorite in Louis XIV's Court, her writings threatened the French Catholic hierarchy, which eventually led her to a 10-year incarceration in the Bastille and forced to write retractions of her beliefs.

"Madame Guyon influenced the Quakers and other Protestant denominations," said James, who initially sought the consolation of Guyon's writings during a stressful, painful time as one of the first women priests in Virginia, where she was harassed and threatened when she tried to introduce African-Americans into her all-white congregation.

Nancy James is the author of *Standing in the Whirlwind*, about her spiritual journey working in the criminal justice field and the Quietist theology of Madame Guyon; *The Pure Love of Madame Guyon: The Great Conflict in the Court of Louis XIV*; *The Spiritual Teachings of Madame Guyon, Including Translations into English from Her Writings*; and *The Conflict Over the Heresy of "Pure Love" in Seventeenth-Century France: The Tumult Over the Mysticism of Madame Guyon*. Another book written with Dr. Sharon Voros,

Naval Academy professor, is *Bastille Witness: The Prison Memoirs of Madame Guyon*. It is the first English translation of Madame Guyon's memoirs from her incarceration in the Bastille and is finished and at the publisher. James is currently working on a book, titled *The Complete Madame Guyon*, a new translation of her works.

Currently, James serves as an assistant priest at St. John's, Lafayette Square and Grace Episcopal Church, Georgetown. She is a chaplain at Washington National Cathedral and an interim chaplain at St. Patrick's Episcopal School. She is interim rector at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Croom, Md.

She is also a writer at Georgetown University's Center for the Applied Research in the Apostolate.

James earned her Ph. D. Degree in religious studies in the area of philosophical theology from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. She has a Master in Divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, and a B.A. in English with a minor in music from California State University at Sacramento. She lives on Capitol Hill with her family.

The Southwest Episcopal Church's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse series opens on the first Wednesday of each month to showcase local artists in their various media as they perform and share how their faith, art and social worldview intersect, according to the Rev. Martha Clark, priest-in-charge at St. Augustine's. Donations will be accepted to help provide honorariums for the guest artists. Contact rector@staugustinesdc.org, 202-554-3222 or visit www.staugustinesdc.org for further information.



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Rev. S. Isaiah Harvin sisaiyahharvin@yahoo.com
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Worship
Wednesday: Noon Day Prayer, 3:30 p.m. Senior Bible Study (Greenleaf), 7:30 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study

Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle of the Assemblies of God

60 I St. SW (202) 484-3184
Pastor Robert Carter tizdtw@yahoo.com
Sunday: 10:45 a.m.; Friday: Prayer and Bible Study: 8 p.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Carron Baptist Church

1354 First St., SW (202) 484-3172
Pastor Lester W. Allen
Sunday: 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Noon Day Prayer, 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Friendship Baptist Church

900 Delaware Ave. SW (202) 488-7417
Rev. Dr. J. Michael Little, Pastor Rachel McNeal, Admin. Asst. crachel522@aol.com
Sunday: 9:30 A.M. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Morning Worship
Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Service and Bible Study

Riverside Baptist Church

Seventh St. and Maine Avenue SW (202) 554-4330
Pastor Michael Bledsoe, pstrbled@comcast.net
Sunday: 10 a.m. with Bible Study at 9 a.m.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church

1105 New Jersey Ave. SE (202) 488-7298
Rev. Dr. Maxwell M. Washington, Pastor Gwendolyn Coleman, Office Asst. praisethelord1820@yahoo.com
Sunday: 8 a.m. Sunday School; 9:05 a.m. Worship Service
Tuesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

Second Baptist Church Southwest

1200 Canal Street SW (Corner of First and M streets SW) (202) 484-3112
Reverend James Jones Reverend Carl V. Messiah sbcsw@aol.com
Summer Schedule for July & August
Sunday: Church School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Each 3rd Sundays: Unity Sunday-Sunday Church School 8:30 a.m., Worship at 9:45 a.m.

Second Union Baptist Church

1107 Delaware Ave. SW (202) 484-7012

www.secondunionbaptistchurch.org

Rev. William Harrison, Pastor secondunionbaptist@yahoo.com

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Worship

Wednesday: Noon Day Prayer, 3:30 p.m. Senior Bible Study (Greenleaf), 7:30 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study

St. Dominic Catholic Parish

603 E St. SW (202) 554-7863 Father Gregory Salomone, O.P., fathergreg@speakeasy.net Denise Marshall, Parish Receptionist & Admin. Asst., receptionist@st-dominic-church.org
Saturday: 5:15 p.m. (Vigil of Sunday)
Sunday: 8 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:15 p.m. (Spanish), and 5:15 p.m.
Weekdays: 8 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. in the Church (There are no Masses on federal holidays)
Reconciliation: Monday – Friday 11:55 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.; Saturday 4:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

14 M St. SE (202) 488-1354 Fr. Richard Gaucanco
Sunday: 8 a.m.
Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri.: 12:10 p.m.
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. - Bible Study, RCIA classes and First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes. Classes start on Sunday, October 10.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

600 M St. SW (202) 554-3222 Rev. Martha Clark marthakclark@yahoo.com
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Worshiping at First Trinity Lutheran Church, 501 Fourth St. NW at Judiciary Square (410) 375-5053 (cell) Pastor Phillip Huber pchuber@hughes.net
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: 6:45 p.m. Sing & Rejoice
Thursday: 6 p.m.: Bread and Soup, 6:45 p.m. Evening Prayer

Christ United Methodist Church

900 Fourth St. SW (202) 554-9117 Rev. Adrienne Terry ChristUMCDC@yahoo.com
Sunday: 10 a.m.
Thursday: 12 noon & 6:30 p.m., Bible Study

Westminster Presbyterian Church

400 I St. SW (202) 484-7700 Co-Pastors: Rev. Ruth Hamilton and Brian Hamilton Sunny Simmons, Project Admin. sunny@westminsterdc.org
Sunday: 11 a.m. with choir practice at 9 a.m.

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St. Augustine's Highlights JumpStart Media's First Year

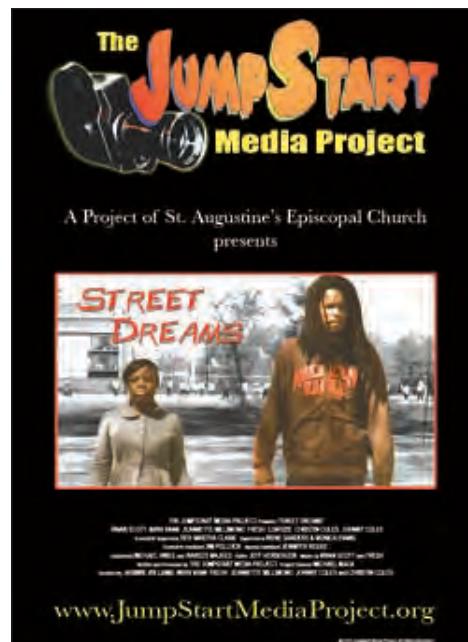
By Elaine Graves

St. Augustine's "Grounds for Discussion" program on Sunday, Oct. 24 presents "JumpStart Media Project, Year One." Actor, producer and screenwriter Michael Mack, the program's director, and Stephanie Summers, JumpStart's supervisory liaison to the church's vestry and chair of its advisory committee, will discuss the process and progress of teaching life skills to at-risk Southeast and Southwest youth through media arts education. The free event includes light refreshments and a facilitated questions and answer period.

Mack describes the beginning:
"The JumpStart Media Project started in

September of 2009 with a grant from the U.S. Dream Academy of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at the Department of Justice. We used September through December 2009 as a preparation period: setting up a media studio at St. Augustine's, staffing, attending community meetings, studying the issues related to at-risk youth in Ward 6, and continuing our study of Dr. Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences theory. We did all of this prior to recruiting so that we would be prepared for our youth."

Mack continued, "Of course things happen, such as the blizzards in December 2009, but I think it's been a blessed year. We started working with our first group in mid-January 2010, completed a film with them in April ("Street Dreams"), and the U.S. Dream Academy awarded us a second round of funding in June. We worked with two groups of youth this summer and completed a film with each of them. All



three films will be on hand for viewing at the October 'Grounds for Discussion.'

"I will definitely show the one film we made with youth from Little Lights Urban Ministries, whose outreach is located in Potomac Gardens," Mach said. "The film is called 'Redemption.' It's about a family struggling with various problems and the pain of a child who just wants to grow up. It's a powerful little film that's likely to spark lots of discussion."

Grounds for Discussion is a community speaker forum offered by the church on the last Sunday of each month from 10:45 a.m. to noon. The forum focuses on local, national, and global issues that challenge us both as citizens and people of faith, according to the Rev. Martha Clark, priest-in-charge at St. Augustine's. Guest speakers will include writers, educators, and civic, and church leaders.

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Where a Hotdog is Not Just a Hotdog

Are you adventurous enough to fill your hotdog bun with a rabbit-dog? If you are, there is no place like the District Dog House, a creation of Cantina Marina owners which they have recently taken out of moth balls to grace the 7th Street Landing and other possible future waterfront interim uses. Conceived as an alternative to the hum drum hot dog street stand, the District Dog House first offered gourmet dogs to fans at RFK stadium, accord-

ing to Rich Hemmer from Cantina. The concept is back with an array of sausages that feature beef, wild boar, rabbit, duck, and lamb. These dogs are graced with a wide variety of alternative toppings, including a wide array of mustards and sauces like hoisin, tzatziki, and crab. The chef says that their crab sauce has a cheese base, but the other ingredients remain a secret. Your gourmet dog can sport scallions, kalamata olives, and even peanut butter if you dare.

They also offer options for people who are not wild about dogs such as chili and soups, chips and drinks. Yes, there is a vegan dog for those who prefer not to eat meat, and even a banana in a bun dressed with peanut butter and jelly masquerading as a hotdog.

The District Dog House exalts the lowly hotdog experience. Catch yours at the 7th Street Landing while programming is active at the park. But hurry, the park programming only stretches



Marisa and Steve help some customers decide on their choice of dog from the Dog Pound menu.

to Oct. 17, 2010. And look for the Dog House to pop up again in our community.



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Applications for grants may be submitted at any time
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We support The Southwester through our advertising.

Smiling Faces at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's End of Summer Fair in mid-September

Southwest resident Patricia Harris, left, smiles happily as she holds a hand crocheted afghan, one of three raffle prizes she won that day! Council Member Tommy Wells, Ward 6, drew her lucky number and Southwest resident Kwasi Holman, St. Augustine's Junior Warden, announced the lucky winners.

Photo: Elaine Graves



Changes Introduced at Amidon-Bowen Back-To-School Night

By Meg Brinckman

Back to School Night has long been an exciting start to the school year. On Sept 22, Amidon-Bowen Elementary School principal LaShanté Knight discussed the need for parents, school staff and the community to renew efforts to provide an environment in which students can progress. Last year's testing showed that only 30 percent of students were rated as proficient in reading and 25 percent were proficient in math. The new school motto is "Working hard, Getting Smart, and Being Kind." The mission is to "Prove Them Wrong" by improving the perception of the school and making it a true neighborhood institution, the first choice of Southwesterners.

As each family arrived, they were given a contact card to fill out for each child. These contact cards will allow the faculty to carry out one of the important goals for this year – increased communication between parents/guardians and teachers. The card also will enable the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) to contact parents. The filled-out card became an entry into several drawings for gift cards from CVS and Safeway and a beautiful scooter for a lucky boy or girl. The Amidon-Bowen PTA and Revolutionary Foods, the food service company for Amidon-Bowen, provided refreshments which included samples of items included in school lunches.

Knight's presentation stressed the change in morning arrival time. Children arriving before 8:30 a.m. must register for the Before School Program. Supervision is not available until 8:30



Ms. Para Perry, Music Specialist, and students explore musical instruments during the Support Showcase in the gymnasium on Back to School Night. Photo by Dawn Gray.

a.m. Teachers escort students from the blacktop into the classroom at 8:40 a.m. Breakfast is served in the rooms at 8:45 a.m. After 8:50 a.m., students are marked tardy. A note from a parent or guardian is necessary to avoid an unexcused tardy. Three unexcused tardy arrivals equal one unexcused absence. Knight also discussed the Discipline Program which seeks to build self-discipline and to help student recognize when they need to step back and change their behavior. The goal is to keep students in the classroom learning environment by a system of short time-outs and intervention by the professional staff. The symbol of a traffic light is used to indicate where a student is on the behavior continuum.

Each family received a folder that included more about the presentation material like information about how homework is assigned and when it is to be returned plus additional infor-

mation like student classroom assignments, the Grade Level Newsletter, and a calendar. The Grade Level Newsletter covers the upcoming month's curriculum focus plus math, reading, science, and social studies. Monthly Newsletters have already started. A calendar for the next three months was also available. It included important dates for activities such as test days, holidays, progress reports, and dates for parent conferences. Teacher contact information was included in the folder so that parents can keep in touch as the year progresses.

Every two weeks, parents will receive a Progress Report. Parents were informed that teachers will be retaining a portfolio of each child's work that is available for parents to review. The goal is to move to improve performance from the very beginning and not wait for Report Cards to notify parents of student progress.

Parents were given an opportunity to show how they could support their children's classroom by signing up to help out. Participation options included from being a Room Parent, making copies for teachers, assisting at lunch time and recess, chaperoning field trip, and reading aloud to students.

Time for parents to visit up to three classrooms was scheduled as well as a "Support Showcase" in the gymnasium where all the special subject teachers – Art, Music, Physical Education, Science, and Library – were available to demonstrate the important contribution they make to the education of children. Afterschool Programs, Everybody Wins, Early Childhood Education and Family Engagement representa-

tives were available for parents to ask questions about the services available to them.

Other changes to Amidon-Bowen have occurred. Each grade level has chosen a name including Starts, Gifted, Achievers, Scholars, Excellence, and Royal. The Amidon Warrior is being retired as the mascot for Amidon-Bowen. When the two schools were combined in 2008, the Warrior mascot continued to represent the school. This year, the decision was to change the uniform colors and to hold a contest to choose a new mascot to solidify the community identification with the school. The uniforms were changed to grey shirts and navy blue pants or skirts. The wining mascot was announced. We salute the new Amidon-Bowen Tigers.



The Winner! Lamont Weir won a brand new scooter in the Back to School Night Raffle.

New Course Offerings at The Graduate School

By Bonnie Lieb

The Graduate School unveiled on Oct. 4 its new Center for Health Sciences including its first two academic programs – Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) and Phlebotomist. The MLT is an associate of applied science degree and the phlebotomy program awards a certificate. Both provide education and training to support a career in what D.C.'s Department of Employment Services says is one of the fastest growing segments of the D.C. economy – healthcare.

An MLT collects, handles, processes and analyzes body fluids, cells and tissues for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. The technician's role of providing laboratory information is essential for the detection, diagnosis and treatment of human diseases. Phlebotomists are trained to collect specimens for laboratory testing used to diagnose and treat diseases. The median wage for an MLT is \$36,000/year and \$27,000/year for a phlebotomist.

Both Graduate School curricula provide a combination of coursework and clinical experience with a strong emphasis on employability skills such as problem solving, effective communication, professional conduct, and information and technology literacy. The Center for Health Sciences is a part of the Graduate School's new mission and strategic plan to provide a full complement of occupational courses, certificates, degrees and other professional development activities serving the D.C. community. The Center prepares students for employment in inpatient, ambulatory and research settings. Through hands-on experiences, students cultivate necessary skills, concentrating on patient

safety, infection control, and ethical conduct — all of which are taught in accordance with industry standards.

"With the Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting the growth rate of new healthcare jobs to be double the rate of non-healthcare professions, we are pleased to offer these two programs" says Dr. Jerry Ice, chief executive officer and president of the Graduate School. "The supply of allied health professionals isn't keeping up with demand – and we can help."

The Graduate School is committed to providing the local D.C. community access to a good, quality educational experience as well as a potential meeting place for the local Southwest community, Ice continued. We believe this Center for Health Sciences is a step in that direction and encourage everyone to learn more about it.

Since acquiring the assets of Southeastern University (SEU), the Graduate School has been exploring all options for the site that housed SEU and many options are still under review. It will take approximately \$12-\$14 million to bring the building up to Graduate School standards for students. Since the Graduate School has never and does not currently receive any government funding, all of its educational and training services are fee for service, but scholarships are available.

Courses begin on Oct. 4 and applications are being accepted at www.graduateschool.edu. They will be held at The Graduate School's main location at 400 Maryland Ave. SW. Programs are 12-18 months long, and the Center will provide career counseling to anyone interested in this growing field of education and employment.

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